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Assignment 3

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Download the python codes from

https://github.com/tanayyadav28/Assignments/blob/main/Assignment%203/code/assignment3.py

and latex-tikz codes from

https://github.com/tanayyadav28/Assignments/blob/main/Assignment%203/assignment3.tex

1 Problem

(GATE EC, Q. 25) A fair coin is tossed till a head appears for the first time. The probability that the number of requried tosses is odd,is

(A)
$$\frac{1}{3}$$

(B)
$$\frac{1}{2}$$

(C)
$$\frac{2}{3}$$

(D)
$$\frac{3}{4}$$

2 Solution

Let $Y \in \mathbb{N}$ denotes the number of trials. Y = k represents k - 1 failures before getting 1 success. $p = \frac{1}{2}$

$$p_Y(k) = (1-p)^{k-1} \times p$$
 (2.0.1)

Here, k = 2n + 1. Let X be the Bernoulli Random Variable $X \sim B(1,0)$. The probability $p_Y(k)$ is mutually exclusive for all odd tries. Hence, by the rule of sum,

$$\Pr(X=1) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} p_Y(2n+1)$$
 (2.0.2)

$$= \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (1-p)^{2n} \times p$$
 (2.0.3)

$$=\frac{p}{1-(p^2-2p+1)}$$
 (2.0.4)

$$=\frac{1}{2-p}$$
 (2.0.5)

$$\therefore \Pr(X = 1) = \frac{2}{3}$$
 (2.0.6)

Hence, the correct option is (C).

